



NSA Declares CIA Used It to Gather Intelligence

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Officer Says US Supplied 80% of Funds Some 20 Foundations Transmitted Cash, Investigation Board Chief Reveals

Washington Post News Service

Washington, D. C. — The CIA provided up to 80% of the National Student Association's budget and used its officers and staff in direct intelligence gathering activities, the organization's supervisory board confirmed Friday night.

After three days of closed door meetings, the student group's national supervisory board gave its first official report of the extent of CIA penetration of the student organization.

Samuel W. Brown, a Harvard divinity school student who was chairman of the board's investigation, said:

About 20 foundations and individuals served as conduits of CIA funds to the student organization. Until January, 1966, the CIA obtained draft deferments for the officers and full time NSA staff members.

CIA agents were consulted about staff appointments and exercised "subtle influence" over the policies of the student group.

NSA staffers gathered information for the CIA about for-

oreign student leaders and gave CIA "assessments of the political situation among student organizations abroad."

In disclosing some of the inside dealings with the CIA, Brown said the most "horrible and disgusting" aspect of the relationship was the way the CIA "duped and trapped" student leaders into co-operating with the agency.

According to Brown, the CIA recruited new student leaders after consulting with student officers who were already co-operating with CIA. But prior to revealing the CIA's link, the recruits were asked to sign security clearance papers threatening them with 20 year jail sentences if they disclosed what they were about to be told.

Then they were told, and they were trapped, Brown said.

After being recruited, Brown said, some student leaders received under the table salary supplements of up to \$3,500 dollars a year. Others received fellowships after they left their posts, he said.

Brown said the supervisory board had "no intention of dissolving" the NSA because of the disclosure of its 14 year financial involvement with the CIA.

But he announced the immediate suspension of the credentials of representatives of the NSA abroad, until they could be cleared of any involvement with the CIA.

In addition, the board froze all accounts containing funds coming from the CIA. The last known transmittal of CIA funds was made in December, 1966, Brown said.

The student organization will seek to terminate its CIA fi-

cers building here, Brown added. If it cannot do so, it will move out, he declared.

Brown praised the current officers of the organization, who he said had gone through "agony" in trying to break away from the CIA. W. Eugene Groves, the president, and other officers have the complete confidence of the board, Brown said.

Brown identified the following as conduits of CIA funds: The Foundation for Youth and Student Affairs, the Catherwood Foundation, San Jacinto Foundation, Sidney and Esther Raab Foundation and R. E. Smith Foundation.

CIA Link Defended

Gloria Steinem, a New York free lance writer, acknowledged in an interview Friday that she worked closely with the CIA to organize groups of American young people to attend world youth festivals in Vienna and Helsinki in 1959 and 1962.

She strongly defended her actions and had great praise for the CIA agents with whom she collaborated.

"I found them liberal and far sighted and open to an exchange of ideas," she said. "I never felt I was being dictated to at all."

Miss Steinem was director of the Independent Research service, a group that sponsored the trips of several hundred young Americans to Vienna and Helsinki.